

A Newspaper Devoted to the Welfare of All Workers by Hand or Brain

The Canadian Railroader Weekly

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A NEW ALLY OF LABOR

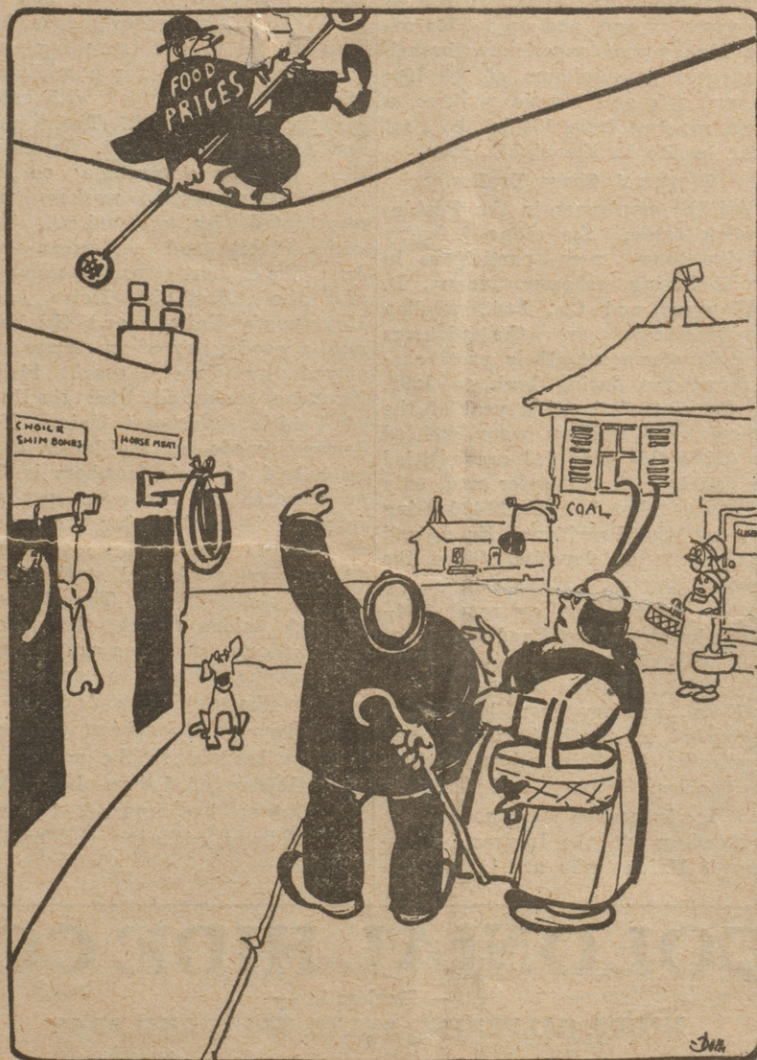
THE Social Service Councils of Canada, nationally representative of a number of religious denominations and other important agencies, passed the following resolution in congress at Montreal last week:

"That this congress, acting in the belief that social welfare must be founded on social justice, goes on record as favoring a principle for an eight-hour day wherever practicable, and endorses the principle of collective bargaining and the right of every worker to an income adequate to ensure a fair standard of living."

In other words, the congress endorsed the main principles of Canadian trade unionism. It is a noteworthy sign that many churches and social agencies are at last conscious of the basic needs and rights of the workers, as demanded by organized labor for years. Labor has to a considerable extent won its rights unaided, but only by fighting against powerful and bitter opponents. Labor itself created the public opinion which is reflected back in the action of the congress. But labor will be none the less thankful, as there still remain in Canada many enemies of its principles, and labor welcomes such an ally to its cause so that that cause may be brought more quickly and less disagreeably to its completeness of fulfillment.

It is assumed, of course, that the Social Service Councils will go further than the passing of good resolutions; that they will bring some of their weight and influence into action when the application of the principles they endorse is attacked. Cases of attack on these principles

will arise in different parts of the country from time to time. Men and women will be persecuted for adherence to these principles; their economic destinies, involving their careers, their homes, and perhaps their very lives, will be in jeopardy because they dare to insist on these principles in the only legitimate ways open to them. If they lose in the struggle, their immediate and personal loss



"Do make him come down; it makes me dizzy to look at him."

—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

WHAT'S OLD ISN'T ALWAYS BEST.

I lose my patience, and I
own it, too.
When works are censured,
not as bad, but new;
While if our elders break all
reason's laws,
These fools demand not par-
don, but applause.

—Pope.

will be serious indeed, but not one tenth as serious as the ultimate effect on the country, for men and women thrashed and trampled on because they seek social justice in sound and orderly processes are easy converts to unsound and disorderly processes. No persons know these things better than the missionaries of anarchy and topsyturvydom, who chuckle when they see might and selfishness land another body blow on social justice. They are able to say, "I told you so."

The Social Service Councils of Canada can step in and do much to minimize the prejudices and persecutions arrayed against the upholders of the principles they have endorsed. In some instances they can probably remove them altogether. That they will do something is assured; how thoroughly and determinedly they will act is still a matter of conjecture and hope. The churches practically admit that they need a new message, or, to be more exact, an improved form of application of an old one. Perhaps they have found a substantial clue to it in the resolution passed by the congress, largely expressive of church thought as that congress is. How far will they follow that clue?

K. C.

OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Glasgow, January 3. It is good news for the beginning of another year to learn there is at last genuine prospect of an early settlement of the long-continued moulders' strike in England, which has had a bad effect on the Scottish trade. The outlook for any branches of British industry in 1920 would be seriously clouded if this ruinous dispute were to go on much longer. The foundry trade is essential for the successful running of many other important trades and industries which have been grievously handicapped by the lack of progress in the making of machine tools and other equipment. Already many operatives besides the moulders are unemployed, and the numbers would be steadily increased the longer settlement was postponed. Failure to reach an agreement last week in the national dispute was due to what might be termed a purely side issue—the trouble in the Bromwich West branch of the trade. At the request of the Prime Minister, the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress have so far successfully intervened that the local quarrel is being treated by itself, and the way seems now clear for a settlement of the strike as a whole before many days are over. There is an immense demand for almost all classes of British manufacture; with the moulders back at work the various trades affected will be given full opportunity for benefitting from the prevalent boom.

Scottish Co-operative Workers.

As the result of an important conference, held at Glasgow on New Year's Day, the Co-operative employees throughout Scotland will cease work this week-end unless a settlement is reached, but in Glasgow the period for negotiation has been extended. There were 214 delegates, representing 70 branches in all parts of Scotland, at the conference. These were members of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative and Commercial Employees and Allied Workers, who met to consider the scale of wages and conditions of labor. A full report of the position was given by Mr. J. S. Simpson, and Mr. J. Hallsworth, general secretary. A general discussion followed, and later a resolution was adopted giving the officials full power to negotiate with the va-

rious wages Boards and individual Co-operative Societies, and to take such action as they might think necessary in order to bring about a satisfactory settlement. The officials are today meeting first with the Wages Boards representing Co-operative Societies in Lanarkshire, East of Scotland, Ayrshire, and Falkirk. A letter was read from Dumfries Co-operative Society intimating that they are prepared to concede the demands in certain parts, and on others stated they were prepared to meet the officials for further negotiation. So far as Glasgow is concerned the Conference unanimously agreed that the time allowed to strike—which originally was to expire today—should be extended pending a further conference with the Wages Board. The officials, it was stated, are hopeful of coming to an amicable settlement in the majority of the districts, but failing such the workers, with the exception of those in Glasgow, will cease work at the closing hour today. The principal terms demanded by the workers—who total 12,000 in Scotland—are a minimum wage for counter-hands and clerks of 60s at 21 years of age, and up to 75s after nine years' experience; branch managers a minimum of £4 10s; buyers, £5; and female workers, a scale ranging from 15s in the first year to 56s in the eighth year.

Workers' Share Profits.

All the employees in the Peebles woollen trade, the staple industry of the town, now participate in profit-sharing schemes. Messrs. D. Ballantyne and Co., Ltd., woollen manufacturers, are the pioneers of this movement, their profit-sharing scheme dating back to 1892. At the end of the first year of the scheme, 219 workers were entitled to £525; this year 743 are entitled to £4124. Of the latter sum, only £859 was taken in cash, £2436 being put to the Provident Fund, and £828 put on deposits. Since the scheme started, the amounts disbursed to the workers reach £34,770; the Provident Fund stands at £17,370, and the deposits amount to £8713. Messrs. Lowe, Donald and Co., warehousemen, have also intimated a profit-sharing scheme applicable to their indoor workers in Peebles, Glasgow, and London.

Insurance Agents.

Members of the Insurance Company's Union who are in the em-

ployment of the Pearl Assurance Company, have come out on strike to enforce a big wages demand. In this Union there are about 14,000 men, and of that number some 2,000 men are affected by the present movement, but they are out all over Scotland, England, and the South of Wales. The increases asked include a minimum "£12 debit", 25 per cent commission, interest in their books, fees for or writing up new books, as well as 2s 6d per member per annum for Health Insurance, and 5s war bonus for all agents, dating back from January, 1916. The officials of the men's union alleged that the average earnings of the agents are under £2 per week, and that they have received no war bonus. Men returning from war services, too, are said to be receiving less than before they went away. This is the first of an organized movement to secure better conditions for insurance agents, and upon its result will depend whether or not other companies will be affected.

Taxi Drivers' Strike.

A strike of taxi-cab drivers and men employed by funeral coachhires has been going on in Glasgow for a week with a demand for increased wages, affecting about 400 men. As a result of the strike the taxi-cab services at the principal railway stations in the city have been withdrawn, and a good deal of inconvenience has been caused to the travelling public. The men ask for a minimum rate of £2 10s per week with extra pay for Sunday work. Their present wages vary from £1, 10s, to £1 12s, with a percentage on the total earnings. The workers are represented by two unions. The taxi drivers and motorman are for the most part members of the Scottish Horse and Motormen's Union, and the cabmen, a good many of whom are employed by funeral coach hiring firms, are connected with the United Vehicle Workers' Union. The demands made by the latter body on behalf of their members is for an increase of 34s over per-war rates. This would bring the wages of funeral coachmen up to about £2 18s per week and station cabmen to about £2 14s. The officials of both unions report that they made efforts some time ago to open negotiations with the employers, and as the employers declined to meet them on the subject the matter was brought to the notice of the Ministry of Labor. Lord Provost Stewart has been asked to use his influence to bring the parties together.

In Scotland generally the prospects for this year are regarded as exceedingly hopeful if new spirit can be infused into the public. There are orders for engineering products and for new merchant ships, especially cargo boats, in great numbers, and in all lesser industries the prospects are bright. But Scotsmen, being financially minded men, are acutely conscious of factors which tend to cast a little gloom over horizon. High production is necessary for full success in 1920, and this will, with shortened working hours, be utterly impossible if there are to be stoppages owing to disputes. At present the feeling in the great industries in and around Glasgow, whilst not ideal, is better than it has been. But relations between Capital and Labor will need to be far more cordial and better balanced if the full fruits offered by the New Year are to be reaped. There are large orders for railway locomotives on hand for the year in the district. Everywhere the prospects indicate a good year, even a record, if the right spirit for tackling the work can be created.

Scottish Police.

A reputation from the Joint Central Committees of the Scottish Police Federation waited upon the Secretary for Scotland in Edinburgh this week, when the speakers complained that certain local authorities had failed to put into operation the scales of pay and allowances recommended by the Desborough Report. They suggested that these authorities seemed to have banded themselves together to resist the scheme. In his reply, Mr. Munro remarked that they had not been long in taking advantage of the new right to interview personally the Secretary for Scotland, but he was the last to object to that. He gathered that six authorities had done nothing so far. While that might be regrettable, it would be unwise to leave out of account the great mass of authorities who had seen what was their duty in the matter and acted upon it. He was shocked to hear of the straits to which the deputation alleged some members of the police force had been driven in consequence of the financial stringency of these days, and he agreed that it was desirable that the report should receive effect as soon as possible in the interests of all concerned. What could be done to secure that end he would make it his business to consider immediately.

JAMES GIBSON.

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Nova Scotia Wage Question Settled

Agreement Signed By Coal Company and Miner's Representatives

The agreement between the Dominion Coal Company and the representatives of the United Mine Workers on the standardization of wages in the different mines, was signed at Halifax last week, and will go into effect as soon as it is ratified by the local miner's unions. Rev. Dr. Clarence MacKinnon, chairman of the board of conciliation, which was appointed to bring about a settlement of the dispute, stated that the object of the board had been satisfactorily accomplished. He said that the standardization would involve a general increase for the miners. The agreement, he added, would stabilize the industry for a year, but guarded the interests of the miners by making provision for a revision at stated intervals.

Dr. MacKinnon said that representatives of the coal company and the miners began discussion of the details of a possible agreement on standardization of wages early in December, and that they had been working ever since. Over 300 different classifications of wages were involved, and this meant strenuous work. The result could not have been accomplished, he said, had it not been for the conciliatory and amicable spirit shown by the representatives of both sides.

He said that the agreement was unanimously signed and that it covered all the Dominion Coal Company's mines and machine shops. In order that no time may be lost in the ratification of the agreement, and that the miners may get full advantage of it at once, steps are being taken to have the unions called together immediately, when the agreement will be submitted to them by their representatives.

PRICE OF COAL RISES.

Glouce Bay, N. S., —Following the advance in wages, which has just been decided upon, the price of coal to domestic consumers in Cape Breton has been advanced by the Dominion Coal Company, from \$5.65 to \$6.20 per ton. There has been no increase on coal sold to the miners, but the price to colliery doctors and churches has been advanced.

NO ESCAPE

As soon as people were told to wear their last year's clothes, the price of thread and clothes-brushes went up.—Washington Star.

THERE WAS A REASON

"I know a man that has been married thirty years and he spends all his evenings at home."
"That's what I call love."
"Oh, no, it's paralysis."—Cornell Widow.

"DOMINION BRAND" TOMATO SOUP STEAMING HOT

Mr. Railroader, on your daily trips you require in the Winter time something that can be made **Hot** in a jiffy, that is palatable and good. Buy a tin or two of **Dominion Tomato Soup** for your next trip. A surprise awaits you. Sold in all up to the minute grocery stores.

DOMINION CANNERS, Limited

Head Offices: HAMILTON, Canada.

TEACHERS TO ORGANIZE

Labor Man Predicts Extension of Trades Union Idea

Expressing the belief that very soon clergymen and school teachers in Canada would be organized along the lines of trades unions. Controller John Cameron, addressing the meeting of the Men's Federation at Mackay Presbyterian Church, Ottawa last Sunday afternoon, spoke of the injustice to members of these professions in that they were paid salaries on which they could scarcely live. In France, he said, 15,000 teachers had recently organized. Only in this way, he thought, would they get the consideration to which they were entitled.

Labor's big object was to break down the barriers between the different classes in the community. By so doing the legislation passed would be of benefit to all and capital would not get the first consideration as it did in the past.

He refuted the suggestion that the demands of labor with the resultant increased wages were the primary cause of the increased cost of living. It was the high cost of living which made labor so insistent in its demand for increased wages.

LADY WARWICK AS LABOR CANDIDATE

The Countess of Warwick has been chosen as the prospective candidate for Parliament from East Walthamstow by the labor party.

NURSING HOUSEKEEPERS

Provision for the creation of a class of certified women to be known as nursing housekeepers is made in a bill which was introduced in the Saskatchewan Assembly last week by the Hon. George Langley in the form of an amendment to the act respecting the Saskatchewan registered nurses' association. The bill provides for the training of these women over a period of one year and for their subsequent legislation. They will then be able to go out in the joint capacity of nurses and housekeepers to attend confinement and minor surgical cases at a less salary than fully qualified nurse commands.

TO EDUCATE OFFENDERS

A petition is being widely circulated in Saskatchewan asking the provincial government to establish an institution where youthful offenders against the law be educated. The petition states that there is a great increase in crime among the youth of the province. Many prominent people have signed the petition.

COMPARATIVE LUXURY

"My dear, as you have been fairly prosperous this year, I think you might give me a few dozen eggs as a Christmas present."

"Can't afford it, darling. You will have to content yourself this year with just a diamond necklace."—Baltimore American.

Labor Platform

New Planks in Programme of Cape Breton Party

The Independent Labor Party of Cape Breton has a platform under consideration which contains several new planks. Among those are the abolition of the Senate and the Legislative Council, abolition of property qualifications for public office, minimum pay for teachers and salaries to be paid by the provincial Government, normal school students at Truro to be boarded at public expense, equal pensions to private soldiers as to officers, public ownership of all utilities, exclusion of Asiatics and aliens.

Other planks worth noting are:—Eight-hour day from bank to bank, and from whistle to whistle, except for farmers, fishermen and lumbermen.

Amendment to the Workmen's Compensation Act, giving seventy-five per cent, of all time lost, maximum of \$1,500 per year with free medical attendance, and supplies, including employees of the Crown, providing there is not already an act dealing with them.

Enforcement of the law regarding children attending school, and also in regard to children employed in factories.

Recognition of labor unions by all employers of all industries.

The establishment by the provincial Government of vocational training schools in all industrial centres.

The Cape Breton Labor Party is making a strong bid for the support of the War Veterans, and is already endorsed by the local farmers' organization.

PASSING THE BUCK

Overworked Husband—"You've been keeping me waiting around here like an old fool for an hour."

Wife—"Well, my dear, I may have kept you waiting, but I had nothing to do with how you waited."—The Harvard Lampoon.

BLACK CAT

Virginia Cigarettes

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Our OTTAWA LETTER

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

A great peace reigns in the political world at the Capital. Many of the Ministers are out of town on various errands, known and unknown, and practically nothing is known of the plans or thoughts of our governors. General Mewburn has definitely given up his portfolio and Mr. Calder is going to administer his department. Mr. Mackenzie King in his recent speeches has been deploring the fact that in the absence of Sir Robert Borden, the Maritime provinces are without any representatives in the Cabinet save Mr. A. K. Maclean, who has no portfolio.

Now, if the Maritime electors cannot produce a Premier for Canada, they like to see their sons in control of one or two of the great spending departments, and have usually managed to achieve this to their own great benefit. But at present they are sadly out in the cold, and their neglect is rapidly becoming an acute grievance. So it was unofficially given out at the Capital that Mr. Maclean would be given the Department of Public Works. Mr. Maclean's aversion to regular departmental duties is notorious; he likes a roving commission, where personal exertion need only be made when the proper mood is present. Within the last few weeks he has privately announced his intention of bidding a long farewell to his present associates, but he has been uttering similar threats at intervals for the last year and they have come to nought.

Mr. Maclean has close acquaintance with some of the shipbuilding fraternity of Canada and the latter have recently come down to Ottawa like a wolf on the fold to demand permanent subsidies for the building of ships. During the later years of the war the Government provided employment for most of our shipyards by its national shipbuilding programme, but the contracts have mostly been fulfilled and many of the yards have no orders in sight at the prices which they offer. The German submarine campaign caused an enormous destruction in shipping, but it is amazing how rapidly the leeway is being made up. The world's shipbuilding production of 1919 amounted to almost double that of 1913, being 8,175,723 tons as compared with 4,267,116 tons in the latter year. At the present rate of construction the world deficiency will soon be made up, freights will fall to a more normal level, and the huge profits which the shipping companies have been able to make will disappear. At present, though it is obscured by high values, there is an infinitely smaller volume of international seaborne trade than in 1913, and, therefore, less employment for ships.

It is notorious that the shipbuilding plant of the world has been enormously added to since 1914. In the United States alone it has increased tenfold. There will be lots of com-

petition for shipbuilding contracts and only ships which are built at the most economical prices will have a chance of paying their way when freights fall. The proposal of our shipbuilders, who bear close resemblance to the importunate widow, is that the people of Canada subsidize their industry to the extent of \$10 per displacement ton and \$10 per indicated horse power on all steel ships built in Canada. In other words, they want to build ships at large which could have little chance of being profitably sold to shipowners in the ordinary course, and they ask that the taxpayers of Canada pay part of the cost of construction which will enable them to lower their real selling price. The proposal is absolutely indefensible from every point of view.

In the first place subsidies do little to reduce inflated costs. They have to be paid out of taxes which are mainly raised by duties on the food, clothes, houses and other necessities of the workers themselves. Extra taxes on these mean additions to the high cost of living, which is already making life a constant financial crisis for the average urban worker. There will be demands for higher wages from the shipworkers and the cost of construction would take another jump forward. If the Government would stop taxing food and the necessities of life the futile race between wages and prices, in which the former always lose, would come to an end, and construction costs would be stabilized.

Secondly shipbuilding is preeminent in an industry which goes ill in hand with a protectionist tariff. Its cost is artificially inflated by the duties on materials which go into the building of ships, like steel, lumber, cement machinery, etc. Great Britain was the foremost shipbuilding country in the world because she was on a free trade basis, and even Germany, despite her belief in protectionism, found it expedient to allow all materials necessary for shipbuilding to come in duty free. It remains to be seen how far the United States will be able to compete with Britain in shipbuilding once the special favors of the United States Shipping Board come to an end.

But to make shipbuilding a permanent success in a country, there must be individuals or companies who can see profit in operating ships, and the experience of the past has been that a high protectionist tariff militates hopelessly against successful shipping. If ships are to pay they must have freight both coming and going, and the whole object of the tariff is to reduce volume of incoming cargoes to the lowest possible bulk.

If we move in the direction of freer trade, there will be more chance for Canadian shipping to prosper but we cannot have it both ways—maintain a monopoly for domestic manufactures and establish a mercantile marine on a paying basis.

Word has now reached Ottawa

that Lord Jellicoe has suddenly been recalled to England, and not only will not sail for South Africa, but will not even visit the South American ports at which he was to call. This will make a change in Sir Robert Borden's plans, and the probability is that he will pass the balance of the winter in some southern health resort. The opinion still prevails that he has given his colleagues a time limit wherein to compose their differences and agree upon a successor. Anyway Sir Robert's permanent retirement is so far taken for granted that the choice of the future leader is the most fruitful topic of conversation in Unionist circles. Next session will see a larger volume of politics than legislation at Ottawa, and the corridors of Parliament will be the scene of much intrigue and negotiation concerning the leadership and the fate of the Coalition.

Among the stern, unbending Tories in the House, Mr. Arthur Meighen is still first favorite. The average member likes a leader who can put up a good fight in a debate, lead a devastating attack or develop almost an unbreakable defence of a poor case, and all these things Mr. Meighen can do. As a speaker he gives confidence to his side and makes them feel that their cause is good and their opponents are men of more than ordinary stupidity and wickedness. It gives the Coalition rank and file a sense of satisfaction in their own virtues and enables them to bear with fortitude the slings and arrows which are directed at them from a variety of quarters. Such is the effect of Mr. Meighen's skill in political advocacy. As the Conservatives now number 80 per cent. of the Coalition membership, his selection would be practically assured if left to the free decision of an open convention of the parliamentary representatives.

But Mr. Meighen has apparently made an enemy of the Montreal financial mandarins through his cavalier treatment of their objections to the acquisition of the Grand Trunk and its subsidiaries last session. They now regard him as a dangerous man and will bend every effort to prevent him becoming the inheritor of Sir Robert's mantle.

Mr. Mackenzie King has now returned to the Capital from his first prolonged speechmaking tour as a leader of the Opposition. He has spoken in succession at Newmarket in North York, Halifax, Charlottetown and St. John. The Newmarket visit was more or less a ceremonial function to strengthen his connection with the constituency which he intends to fight. But the meetings in the Maritime Provinces were public affairs and Mr. King had the satisfaction of attracting very large audiences. At Halifax there were two overflow meetings to which he was able to give some time. Apart from the fact that Mr. King is one of the most accomplished public speakers in Canada today, and having all the arts of the trade at his command, he found a peculiarly re-

ceptive audience for criticism of the Union Government in the Maritime provinces. The Coalition idea was never popular in territory where politics have long been conducted on the principle of a Highland clan feud, and the march of events has destroyed what little hold it ever had.

Today there are no such creatures as Unionists in the Maritime Provinces. Most of the Liberal Coalitionists have gone back to their original party and the Conservative Coalitionists regard the name Unionism as an accursed thing of evil omen which should be buried and forgotten with all possible speed. Therefore the progressive elements in the provinces by the sea were anxious and ready to hear what Mr. King had to say.

The detailed reports of his speeches are not yet available, but the summaries seem to show that he ventured into the region of concrete plans for the reformation of our national ills. Mr. King at least declared his unswerving faith in the benefits of the tariff reductions which the Liberal programme proposes. He came out in favor of reciprocity with the United States and an increase of the British Preference to 50 per cent.

On Friday the 16th Mr. Rowell took occasion to address his constituents at Port Hope and sound the loud timbrel in an impassioned defence of the Coalition Government. He gave a long recital of their virtues and services to Canada, some of it perfectly true and no small portion a figment of his own imagination. What is the use of claiming credit for the financial policy of a Government which has continued in its fiscal measures during the war a policy of class favoritism unparalleled in any Anglo-Saxon country? Will Mr. Rowell kindly explain the merits of a financial administration which levies in the five years of war exactly one half of the direct taxation which another country, Australia, enjoying practically no munitions profits and having only five eighths of our wealth and population, was able to extract? He talked a lot about the respect for law and order which now prevails in Canada, thanks in his view to the judicious conduct of the Union Government, but he did not explain what good comes from a spirit of Prussianism being allowed to pervade our administration of justice. Until Mr. Rowell, who is Minister ultimately responsible for the activities of the Dominion police, explains the sinister raids upon the library and residences of the University of Alberta, his lucubrations will receive scant attention from people who think liberty of speech and thought is still a country's most priceless possession.

J. A. S.

HONEST BUTCHER

A butcher one day put up a sign reading: "Purveyor to His Majesty". Wishing to improve upon this, he added, "God Save the King".—Tyrihaus (Christiania).

Mr. Gompers Sees Liberty Menace

Labor Leader Says Vagueness of Sterling-Graham Peace-Time Sedition Bill Would Permit the Silencing of Free Speech.

While reasserting the loyalty of the American Federation of Labor to the institutions of the American Republic, Samuel Gompers vehemently protests against the pending Sterling-Graham peace-time sedition bill, whose vagueness, he declares, would permit it to be used to silence free speech and restrict the press.

There is law enough in existence, he declares, to deal with every legitimate purpose for which this bill is framed. He sees as a result of the passage of such a law a country filled with spies and special agents of the Department of Justice, engaging in heresy-hunting as a flourishing national industry.

Mr. Gompers issued the following statement in regard to the bill:

"If the American people and, in fact, a majority of the members of Congress were awake to the dangers concealed in this bill, a storm of indignation would sweep the Nation. It has been widely advertised that this measure protects free speech fully, but forbids advocacy of forcible revolution, Bolshevism, and anarchy. In fact it would perpetuate an autocratic censorship over the entire American press. It can be used to kill free press and free assembly. It strikes a deadly blow at legitimate organizations of Labor, or any other progressive movement for the betterment of the masses which may be opposed by the advocates of privilege and reaction. We are for evolution, not revolution; for ballots, not bullets; for majority rule, not a class dictatorship of Bolshevism, plutocracy or of the profiteer. We oppose this bill because every legitimate purpose for which it is framed is already covered by existing rule. Its illegitimate features, which compose two-thirds of the draft, are utterly autocratic, imperialistic and un-American.

"The supreme danger of this bill lies in its vagueness and in the manner in which it may be administered. and to bring home these perils to liberty, I submit the following bill of particulars, which illustrates but in small part what may actually happen.

"Passing over sections 1 to 4, because they are covered by the existing penal code, let us refer to Attorney-General Palmer's contention that new laws are necessary to reach the individual who advocates opposition to the government by violence. Then what is the meaning of Section 4 of the penal code, which reads:

"Whoever incites, sets on foot, assists, or engages in any revolution or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof or gives aid or comfort thereto, shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years or fined not more than \$10,000, or both."

"If revolution is afoot, why has not the Department of Justice made prosecutions under that section?

"Section 5 of the bill, unbelievable as it may seem, may be easily construed to mean, if indeed it does not make it, a crime, so vague and involved is the terminology, to wear in public any button of an organization whose purpose it is to secure an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or existing federal law.

"Section 6 perpetuates the censorship of the Postmaster-General over all newspapers and printed matter. The so-called Borah amendment, providing a court review of the Postmaster-General's action, is sound in principle but is inadequate to afford protection as a practical matter to a publisher against the autocratic action of the Postmaster-General. More amazing still, the proviso sets up a censorship over any man's private correspondence by the Postmaster-General. It would be criminal, for example, for a man to send a letter advocating resistance to an injunction

issued by a federal judge ordering workers on strike to go back to work.

"Sections 9, 10 and 11 contain a grave threat aimed at Labor. Section 9 makes unlawful every association which 'directly or indirectly' seeks political changes by injury to private property. It is unhappily true that even a legitimate strike may result in indirect injury to the employer's private property right in his business. The recent steel and coal strikes were both falsely heralded as attempts to overthrow our government. If a hostile federal judge should decide that any particular strike has a political end in view and the striking union is 'affiliated' with the American Federation of Labor, the American Federation of Labor would be compelled at once to expel the striking union or itself become a crime punished by up to 20 years' imprisonment or up to \$20,000 fine or both, for any person anywhere in the Nation to rent a hall or business office to any Labor organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, or to give or loan it money to send strike relief to starving women and children.

"In general, this is a bill against opinion and advocacy. It proposes to set up a government not of law, but of men, because under its vagueness and sweeping terms no man would know what its law is until the federal judges interpret its meaning. For example, the whole spirit and content of the bill would indicate that the 'prohibition of force' is intended to include industrial activity and is an inhibition of strikes."

Foreign Policy of British Labor

Declaration of Party States That Policy Includes Peace With Soviets and Refusal to Be Bound by Secret Commitments

An important declaration of the foreign policy of the British Labor Party, all the more important, in view of this party's steadily growing strength in the country, is issued by Arthur Henderson, M.P., its secretary. That policy includes peace with the soviets and the refusal to be bound by secret military and political commitments, which might involve the country being drawn into a war in defence of Poland, if the latter by further advances to the East were to draw upon herself a successful Red invasion.

"The collapse of the anti-revolutionary forces in Russia," Mr. Henderson says, "confronts us with two specific dangers, first, an intrigue and agitation used as a war weapon against us by the soviets in Turkey, Transcaucasia and the Mohammedan East generally and, secondly, a campaign on a much larger scale than hitherto upon the Polish front."

As to the first, Mr. Henderson says that the best provision against its extension is peace with the soviets. As indicative of Poland's economic condition, he remarks that the Polish mark is less than a cent and that the Republic's expenditure is eight times its revenue, and instances other similar points, and he asks: "If Poland, having on advice from Paris, repeatedly rejected the overtures of peace from Moscow, were now, by further advances to the east, to draw on herself a serious and possibly a successful invasion by the Red armies, what would be our commitments to her under the covenant of the League of Nations? This contingency has prompted the people to ask whether the country is shortly to be confronted by the government with a fait accompli in the shape of defeated Polish armies, which we shall then be told it is our obligation of honor to rescue. We should thus be involved automatically, without our previous knowledge or consent, in a great continental war for the purpose of destroying the Russian Soviet Government."

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Johnny—"These pants that you bought for me are too tight."

Mother—"Oh, no, they aren't."

Johnny—"They are, mother."

They're tighter'n my own skin."

Mother—"Now, Johnny, you know that isn't so."

Johnny—"It is, too. I can sit down in my skin, but I can't sit down in my pants.—'Boys' Life'."

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Labor Exchanges In United Kingdom

**British Workers Consider Useful Work Should Be Organized To Keep Every Man Employed.—
High Living Cost Deplored.**

(Christian Science Monitor))

LONDON, England — Robert Smillie has stated that it was only through the influence of Frank Hodges, Herbert Smith, M. P., and himself, that the miners accepted the proposal for a commission on which they should nominate their own representatives. In recommending this course Mr. Smillie was honestly of the opinion that the government would accept its findings and act accordingly. Had he known the turn events would take he would have preferred to have allowed the decision of the miners to take its course.

The decision referred to, of course, was the result of the ballot vote which gave the national executive of the Miners Federation the power to call a strike, and which, it is well to remember they can still exercise if necessary without a moment's delay. This is an indication of the temper of the miners concerning the question so near to their hearts.

Power to Call a Strike

There is no unemployment problem in the mining industry, but the miners are not lacking in sympathy and can be depended upon to support the workers in other trades not so fortunately placed as themselves in this respect. The agenda for the congress stated that the recommendations of the parliamentary committee in regard to unemployment would depend upon the reply of the Prime Minister in their interview with him the day before Congress met.

At the moment the unemployment curve is rising rapidly, and as far as the general public is aware there are no schemes under consideration in Parliament that would lead anyone interested in the question to indulge in an optimistic feeling of complacent anticipation. The fact remains that nothing is being done. The problem appears to be greater than the government is capable of handling. Of course very elaborate figures are given of "jobs" filled by the employment exchanges under the Ministry of Labor, but the exchanges cannot provide work; they merely pursue the functions previously

performed by the trade unions and the employers' associations. Apart from paying out the government out-of-work dole, it is questionable if they can be regarded as anything more than an expensive innovation chiefly occupied in sending round pegs to fit square holes.

Suitability of Applicants

The standard of success being measured by the number of vacancies filled, not by the manner in which they are filled, it frequently happens that a man sent to a position is discharged within a few days because of his unsuitability for the work, with the result that a vacancy again occurs and another applicant for work is sent along in due course, which means that the exchange is credited with having filled two vacancies.

Unemployment being now more or less always with us, the point of view emphasized by every section of working-class thought is that useful work should be organized so as to keep every man employed. Out-of-work donation has never until the last year or so been a strong plank in the Labor programme.

Closely allied to the question of unemployment is the high cost of living, which, although higher than during the war, shows no evidence of having reached the summit. At the instigation of the miners, the Congress will be asked to protest against the government's "indifference to the abnormal profiteering engaged in by the large commercial and monopoly interests controlling the essentials of life". Rightly or wrongly, the workers have the fixed idea that the high cost of living and the difficulties arising therefrom are due to the manipulations of the market, and ought to be avoided.

Until this belief is exploded or explained away, if there is no foundation of the thought, or until very firm steps are taken to deal with the culprits, if there is an element of truth in the assertion, it is a sheer waste of energy and time to appeal for greater output. To what lengths even moderate men are prepared to go to force the

issue in regard to the infamous prices demanded for the necessities of life can be gathered from a proposal made at the miners' conference when the question was under discussion. A Welsh delegate recommended that the government should be given three months to bring down prices to within reasonable proportions. If after that time, the desirable reductions had not been reached the Trade Union Congress should call a general strike.

Control of Raw Materials

The parliamentary committee in this connection after registering a protest against the government's alleged apathy, proceeds to propose as a remedy the nationalization of land, minerals, mines, and transport as a means of lowering prices. Realizing that this is an ambitious programme which might take time, it is urged that immediate steps be taken to secure "effective control of raw materials required for the manufacture of vital commodities, including the materials required for house building, the production of food, clothing, and other essential of life."

Now this resolution simply reaffirms the opinion of Congress expressed on many previous occasions, and will by no manner of means satisfy the volcanic elements, who latterly have been attending in sufficient numbers to dominate its policy. A gathering sufficiently interested in the remote question of Russian intervention and conscription as to wish to bring the heavy artillery of industrial action to bear to enforce its decisions, will surely refuse to rest content with passing a pious expression of opinion in regard to a matter that so immediately and vitally affects its everyday life. While agreeing that the problems are more complicated than the Labor supporters would have one believe, there is no denying the fact that in the proposal for "more effective control" of essentials for production Labor has placed its finger upon an important and seemingly neglected factor that would facilitate output which in turn would find work for numbers now unemployed.

Delay in Transportation

The difficulty of obtaining raw



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material and delay in transport appears to be the greatest obstacle encountered by manufacturers, who complain that delivery now frequently takes weeks instead of days as formerly. One firm writes that the delay is not confined to any one town but is general throughout the country, in consequence of which their workpeople are on short time, whereas, if transport had been satisfactory, they could increase their output to meet the demands of the market and find work for more workmen.

On behalf of the South Wales manufacturers a Labor member of Parliament. Vernon Hartshorn, is to raise the question in the House of Commons, and the National Union of Manufacturers also proposes to use its influence to ventilate the grievances. If the writer gathers rightly the point of view of the last-named organization, the difficulty is due to an unwillingness on the part of employers to embark on expensive schemes until the intentions of the government are definitely known in regard to certain matters.

Mr. Godfrey Cheeseman, the secretary of the Manufacturers Union, quotes the case of a firm of quarry owners who were anxious to build railway trucks, but were not advancing their schemes while the prospect of nationalization was hanging over their heads. In this particular connection one might be pardoned for saying that "it

was a good thing too". As keenly anxious and sympathetic as every one must be to find work for an unemployed man or woman, no one desire to see people digging holes to fill them up again. And this is what the building of more trucks would mean.

The problem is not due to a want of vehicles, but to want of the proper and fuller use of the vehicles already in existence. An increase in the number of railway trucks would simply aggravate the congestion which, it is admitted, is a daily experience. According to A. W. Gattie's evidence before the House of Commons committee to investigate the problem of transport and the former's proposal to erect a clearing house, a railway

truck is only fully functioning, that is, carrying goods from A to B, one-half per cent of its life; it travels empty 2½ per cent and is actually standing idle the remaining 97 per cent.

These figures have been before the public for many years past, supported by eminent authorities, and have not been controverted. In a modified form this extravagance and uneconomical method of working can be found in innumerable fields of industrial activity, as the necessities of the war amply revealed. A convenient excuse, one that falls glibly from the lips of those responsible, is to attribute the want of organization and absence of modern appliances to a fear of trade union opposition; an as-

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sertion which many of the captains of industry would find it extremely difficult to justify. The connection between increased production, prosperity, high wages and unemployment is very well understood by the rising school of Labor leaders, and to indicate that they would lend themselves to a policy which retarded the free economic development of the country's resources would be an unpleasant reflection on their training and intelligence.

AS IT SEEMED TO HIM.

Little seven-year-old James came home from school the first day with a determined look on his face. He was decided on one point. "Mother", he cried, "I'm going to quit school and be a school-teacher".

"Why, James", said his mother, laughing, "how can you? You don't know enough."

"Don't know enough?" exclaimed the would-be teacher. "You don't have to know anything. All you have to do is to ask questions". —"San Francisco Argonaut".

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GEO. PIERCE, Editor. KENNEDY CRONE, Associate Editor.

Pity The Poor Landlords

AT a special meeting of the Montreal Chambre de Commerce this week, says the Gazette, many protests were made against provincial legislation, now being sought, that would limit the income of landlords to ten per cent net of the municipal valuation of their property.

Mr. Adelard Fortier, from whom better might have been expected in view of his past record, said that, after all, rent is a commodity for sale in the open market, like all other commodities, and that there was no reason why the government should intervene between the laws of supply and demand. He said that any steps towards the limitation of rents would be very regrettable, as property owners were already losing money. It was for this reason, he said, that no building was going on.

There are those who will disagree utterly that the homes of the people should be regarded as commodities, or subject to any law of supply and demand that the people themselves do not control. But even if it is admitted that it is quite proper to regard them as articles of commerce, surely ten per cent on valuation is a fair return on capital invested. A huge bulk of the rented homes of Great Britain, which is popularly supposed to be a dreadful example of landlordistic leechery, have returned only four per cent to the landlords for many years, yet it is only within the war years that there has been any slowing-down of house construction.

Mr. Fortier says that property owners are already losing money. There are probably some in this class, though we should like particulars before we shed tears over property owners carrying their property at a loss. If soaring rents mean anything at all, they mean that landlords are getting more profit, for doing

less than nothing, than any food profiteer ever dared to suck from the people. Many landlords in this city are making more than one thousand per cent on their original investment. Many tenants have bought their landlord's property for them four times over in the form of rent, and kept it in repair, too.

The main cause of the lack of building now is the inflated value of land, due to parasites in the form of real estate agents and other speculators. It has nothing to do with poverty-stricken landlords. Landlords are merely taking advantage of the shortage to jack up the rents of houses built years ago.

Heavy taxation on unimproved land within the city limits would very quickly settle the house question, forcing construction, cleaning out the land leeches who merely stand still and wait for someone else to raise the value of their land, and taking from the present landlords the opportunity for milking tenants. Vacant land within the city is expensive to the community in many other ways, as a little thought will show.

There are no sacred rights of property, improved or unimproved, that is owned and controlled by those who do not use it themselves. But there are sacred rights of homes for the people, and the landlords would probably be well advised to go carefully, lest their milking capacity be even more seriously restricted than has been proposed, by those who are angry and impatient at the wholesale rack-renting that is proceeding in this city at the present time. Strikes of tenants can be organized, and such strikes have a way of producing results.

K. C.

The Waterworks' Heroes

Reference was made in last issue to the two heroes who remained at their posts at the Montreal waterworks when their comrades went on strike, and for whom a money thank-offering is being raised in the Star. It was suggested in these columns that the strikers' version of the story was needed to complete the record. The strikers' version says that the two men were not engineers or firemen, but caretakers or janitors; that they could not, therefore, belong to the strikers' union; that the strikers did not ask them to strike; that, on the contrary, they preferred that they should stay on their jobs as a protection to the plant, which the strikers had no desire to see damaged or neglected during their absence. Looking at the whole thing from the strikers' view, which is just as essential to the record as any other views, it melts down to a very ordinary affair without any special call for monuments of words, cash or other material.

K. C.

That "Charity" Ball

THE main function of the Charity Ball, held in the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, on Wednesday night, was to provide excuse for a gay and extravagant time for the elite. One proof, if there were no others, is the Gazette report. The name of the ball and six words saying that the affair was "in aid of the Maternity Hospital" were the only indications in the report of more than four thousand words that it had anything to do with charity. It was really "one of the outstanding events of the social calendar", as the society editresses say, and poor charity shivered at the back door and held out its hand for stray coppers, so to speak. The names of the women present and the description of the dresses they wore were evidently much more important than information about the amount of aid received by the hospital, as there were three columns of the former and not a whisper of the latter. It is probably safe to say that twenty times as much money was spent on the dresses and entertainment of the dancers as will come to the aid of the mothers and children who lie in hospital. What queer things are done in the name of sweet charity!

K. C.

SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS

(Special To The Railroader.)

THE awakening and the deepening of what has been termed the social consciousness, was the salient feature of the congress held in Montreal by the Social Service Council of Canada, in conjunction with the Quebec Provincial Social Service Council.

A few years ago the social and moral reform departments of the churches and other organizations which constitute the council, appeared to confine most of their attention to a policy of merely repressive measures, the principal evils dealt with being the drink traffic, the vice question and gambling. Now, however, social welfare workers and students are turning their attention to almost every phase of the individual and community wellbeing, with the inevitable result that they are finding themselves supporting the chief planks in the labor platform. The moment that social service was directed to the living conditions of the toiling masses, those engaged in it were compelled to admit that in general those conditions were not only shameful in regard to the individual lot, but constituted a menace to the general community in respect of public health and morals.

The programme of the congress was essentially a constructive one. Speakers on child welfare, for instance, not only showed the appalling conditions in relation to infantile mortality, but they put forward suggestions for combatting these conditions, and the horrors of the slums were forcibly depicted in contrast with what might be done in town planning. From the family point of view it was brought out again and again that the healthy home and a living wage constituted the indispensable minimum, that without this minimum infant and child life must be daily sacrificed.

But the most contentious phases of the programme undoubtedly lay in the treatment of the industrial problems by the various speakers, and here it was of intense interest to note how even the clergy—who are generally regarded as being conservative in their views on this aspect of life—entertained radical views. The supposition of two speakers that the present regime was in principle satisfactory, and that existing civic and political machinery was quite adequate to effect all desired reforms, evoked a small outburst from clergy, educationalists and social workers.

Judged from the viewpoint of attendance, the congress was not very successful, but the vaccination difficulty in Toronto had deterred quite a number of intending delegates, while the Forward Movement campaign now in progress had taken a number of clergy and laymen out of town. At the same time, it would appear that local workers might have rallied rather better than they did, for it cannot be too strongly emphasized that until all social workers get together, they will never convince the great bulk of the people that they are in earnest. For it is a patent fact that by the great majority of people who jog on in a routine way through life these reformers are regarded as mere faddists, and some comment on this congress heard by the writer supported this statement.

Like all such gatherings, the programme was, if anything, over-burdened, and the danger was that important issues should be too hastily considered. The council meeting in the forenoons discussed some big problems, for which it had not sufficient time. Among special appeals brought before it was that of the penal reformers, and from two quarters there came representations as to present conditions which formed at least a strong prima facie case for a public enquiry, in the form of a royal commission, into our whole penal system.

The Social Service Council of Canada is a comparatively young body and therefore without the necessary means for thorough organization. The arrangements made by the local secretary indicated much hard work and effort—particularly in view of the regretted illness of the general secretary, Rev. Dr. Shearer—but for a gathering of this nature it would seem desirable to have an organization committee, and a publicity committee. The congress was well reported in *The Gazette*, but it was poorly treated by the afternoon papers. The *Toronto Globe*—which took the trouble to send a representative to Montreal for the purpose—had good stories on morning sessions which were entirely neglected by the Montreal afternoon press.

MILITARY JUNTAS' ACTIVITY IN SPAIN

Army Officers Seek to Stem Tide of Democratic Advance, And Intend, If Necessary, To Rule Country By Military Autocracy.

(Christian Science Monitor)

Madrid, Spain—The trials and difficulties of the last government in Spain, under the premiership of Sanchez de Toca, were many, and although it seemed to be weathering the various storms, the military juntas, however, brought things to a head by a majestic assumption of full governmental authority. In a demand for the dismissal of a number of officers of the Escuela Superior de Guerra because they set themselves above the government and the Constitution, and created a situation which nobody unacquainted with Spain at the present time could possibly appreciate.

The circumstances seem to belong rather to one of those imaginary medieval kingdoms somewhere out in eastern Europe, which are described by such names as Ruritania, and where the kings and princes are always doing the most romantic things. But in Ruritania and its sister states of the imagination, there was never a proletariat to bring about any difficulties and complications, while here in Spain the proletariat is becoming an increasingly assertive force.

Juntas Not Legal

In such circumstances the conduct of the juntas is really a most marvellous thing. These institutions have now been in existence for about two years and a half. After withstanding the first attacks upon their organization with a wonderful aplomb, they have intrenched themselves more and more, until when, the other day, there was a big debate in the Chamber as to whether they were legal or not, the conclusion being that they were not, the affair appeared merely academic and puerile.

It has been pointedly declared that these juntas are in effect simply military soviets, and as such are more dangerous to the country than the strongest bodies of anarchists found within its borders. Their object is evident. Seeing Spain little by little being gathered to the democratic system that is sweeping over the rest of the world, and retaining still a belief in the isolation of the peninsula, its capacity, and its merits, they seek to stem the tide of democratic advance, to crush the movement and, mere politics being quite ineffectual, to rule Spain by a military autocracy. As an experiment it is anyhow interesting.

Why Romanones Cabinet Fell

Look as briefly as possible to some of the important antecedents of the present debacle. The exact

circumstances in which the Romanones Government fell some months ago, have only recently become fully known though it was quite understood that the juntas were mainly the cause. Revelation has now been made of a message that was delivered at that time by the presidents of the juntas to Gen. Munoz Cobos, who was War Minister in the Romanones Cabinet. This was the message which causes the government's fall.

It began by saying that the army did not in any way wish to intervene in politics, but would exercise itself only in its own interests or in those of the country which were more sacred. But from this point it went into a long exposition of the social circumstances from its point of view, alluding particularly to the abuses with which the public services, as it said, were paralyzed. At the end of the message various conclusions were set forth, one of which laid down the proposition that the army, in harmony with its duty and traditions, would defend the public order and maintain the law, foreseeing the necessity for exercising force, which it would use discountenancing parliamentary interference. Its orders would be concrete, clear, and expressive.

Reform in Legislation

It further stated that if a mobilization, total or partial, were decreed, the mobilized men would be on exactly the same footing and would be subject to the same duties and discipline as the men of the rank and file. The government was asked to consider the convenience of reforming the legislation with a view to fixing responsibility on the authors of the social disturbances, of establishing a better efficiency in the organization of services of a general character, and of foreseeing the conflicts between Capital and Labor so that the state, the municipalities, and so on, should not find themselves at the mercy of divergences between employers and workmen in those industries which affected the life of the nation, in town and country.

This in its general lines was the nature of the message the juntas gave to the Romanones Government, with the plain intimation that they were determined to act at once upon it. The then Premier decided instantly that parliamentary government in such circumstances was impossible, and resigned. This was in effect the prologue to the great events of the present moment.

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

A SOCIAL INSPIRATION FROM GLASGOW

THE other day I read in an American paper of a housing plan instituted by the Corporation of Glasgow in the Garngad district of the city. The item referred to the building of model homes with the latest improvements. Unfortunately the news was scrappy, but, knowing Garngad as I knew it 16 to 25 years ago, it seemed to me as if the Corporation of Glasgow had done for Glasgow what the dreamers hope the Corporation of Montreal will some day do for the "Red Light" district of this city. The comparison is not quite exact, as Garngad was more like the old Bowery of New York, the old Whitechapel of London, the Scotland street neighborhood of Liverpool, the Digbeth and Deritend districts of Birmingham, and the Montmartre of Paris, but it is exact enough.

In some respects, notably in its drunken violence on Saturday nights, and the terrible privations and the criminal precociousness of many of its children, it had its notorious prototypes in other big cities "skinned a mile", as the saying is. In another respect it was probably unusual, too, for within its grim limits, sometimes in the same shocking tenements as the bad actors, lived quite a number of decent, industrious, Christian people, scrambling unaided and against great odds, to give their children a chance to rise out of the social mire from which they could not free themselves. They might be short on book-learning, as, indeed, most of them were, but they were long on native intelligence, resource and courage.

I knew the district well, as I lived just beyond its maddest swirl through practically all my childhood and early manhood, and its overflows were constantly in sight, hearing and smell. When I was sixteen, having graduated into an editorial department by way of a newspaper delivery wagon and a period as "printers' devil", I was placed, by choice, in the heart of the region as a junior police court reporter. My business mission was,

of course, to get the news facts and keep my opinions religiously out of them, an excellent system (though, being very young and cocksure about everything, I did not think so at the time), which taught me quite early the simple truth that one of the surest ways to influence other people in their opinions was to produce enough plain, hard-boiled evidence and let them do their own thinking in their own way. So, having a rather healthy grudge against social conditions even then, I followed the routine and obvious news to its sources, and got so much other news about the Garngad that it became notorious for the amount and vividness of printed facts that came out of it, than which there could have been no better propaganda to centre attention on its many needs.

Of all the damnable spots on this earth, probably the Garngad was away near the top of the damnable record. The quintessence of its viciousness of housing conditions and human inhabitants was in a small, narrow street known as Middleton Place, a tributary of Garngad Road, and where it was almost an incitement to personal violence to even "look respectable." The strongest and most courageous men on a police force famed for its Highland and North of Ireland giants were assigned to it, and had to fight their way to recognition and respect with their fists and their batons. One old friend of mine, Constable Hutchison, was, by count I kept, set upon forty-eight times in one year, going three times to hospital, once for a spell of six weeks. Various necessities supplied to families by the Charity Organization Society had to be indelibly stamped, in an effort to prevent their sale for drink. Children died in filth. Others were tortured so much that the wonder was that they lived. Still others were expert at crime from five years old up; their fairy tales made heroes of criminals and dastards, and dreadful enemies of policemen and truant and health officers.

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The great hero of the locality was "Noble Dan" (Daniel Kennedy), a huge brute of almost superhuman strength, and with a long criminal record. At one time I was rather friendly with him, and at another he was hunting the district to "smash my nut", as he expressed it.

It was a matter of local pride that it usually required six policemen to land the noble one in the cells. The stinks of chemical and soap works always overhung the place. Smells arose from the sluggish waters of a nearby branch canal which was often freighted with the putrifying bodies of cats and dogs, and of poor humans, too. The few trees, plants and flowers led a precarious existence, no matter how carefully tended. The birds kept away.

Apart from comparatively small (and sometimes small-visioned) efforts of the Salvation Army (the members of which were periodically beaten off the field, lucky to escape with their lives), the Charity Organization Society, the Prisoners' Aid Society, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, some church mission workers and other evangelical, charitable or philanthropic agencies and individuals, there was no such thing as social welfare work, as the term is understood to-day. The civic health department, the school board and the police department were probably the

leading welfare agencies of the times, but, fine though these were even then, they did little more than scratch the surface of the problems of the Garngad. The first baby welfare experts I ever knew were enormous Garngad policemen, with hands and hearts as big as hams.

They carried sick children to free dispensaries, hospitals and police stations, or called the ambulance in cases of fever or accident. Sometimes they had to fight to get and hold the children, and the sight of, for instance, "Big Ben", the burliest policeman I ever knew, struggling along Garngad Road, bare-headed, with the blood pouring through his hair, spitting his teeth out of his mouth, sheltering in his left arm a crying baby, and with his right swinging his baton at the nearest of the gang of molesters shrieking at his heels, has always, to my mind, seemed a subject for a great picture. He was a rough, tough constable was "Big Ben", who had had little schooling, possessed a coarse, rumbling riot of a voice, and doubtless ate peas with his teaspoon. He used to laugh at the spreading expanse of his own great feet. But he was one of Scotland's finest Highland gentlemen.

Many tales could I tell of the social horrors and monstrosities of Garngad, for I got to know it inside out, so to speak. Others could I tell of human endurance and heroic rise to the light, right from the very cesspools of social iniquity and injustice, and of great acts of humanity and service accomplished, as mere matters of course, by simple, handicapped people from whom the community might least expect them. In my own time, I saw great changes come over the face of Garngad, as social welfare movements, civic and otherwise, began to develop along the keen, broad and comprehensive lines we are now familiar with. But model homes! The Garngad I knew is surely a shadow of its former degradation. What great strides for Garngad! What inspiration and hope for the "Red Light" district of Montreal!

K. C.

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The Challenge of the Workers

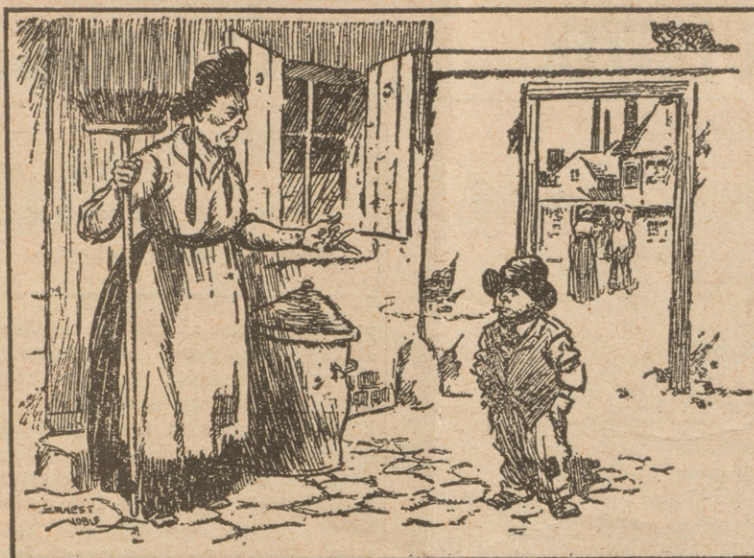
Some of the things labor is aiming at in the matter of change in the social order, and how it proposed to obtain the things desired, were the main themes of an address delivered by Mr. J. A. Woodward, President of the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association, before the Canadian Social Service Congress at Montreal on Jan. 15th. The address was entitled "The Workers' Challenge."

After reviewing the aims and objects of the Association, which proposed to put its own candidates in the legislative assemblies of the country and had already made some progress along this line, he dealt with the value of education. Amongst other things, he said that education was the foundation of the social existence.

"Everybody who has a child knows that the future of his child depends upon the way he is brought up, if he is to be a credit to his home, to the business life he undertakes, or is incompetent; whether he is to be a profitable member of his community or a parasite depends upon his upbringing, if he is to be prudent, cultured or ignorant, brutal or refined, a good citizen or a public nuisance. After all is said and done, it is a matter of training and education..."

"The absolute disability of poverty cannot be removed by an educational law, though education, through the aid it supplies in the formation of a stable character, is bound in the long run to increase the stock of material wealth of the community. But so long as the grinding forms of poverty remain, these unfortunates will continue to think that children are brought into the world to earn wages, and the great object will be to get them out into the labor market as quickly as possible. We cannot in justice ignore the very natural desire of poor parents to increase their scanty earnings by the fruits of their children's labor..."

"It is clear that this country must do something to remedy the glaring



A DESPERATE REMEDY IN ENGLAND'S COAL SHORTAGE:

"Alfie, go and make faces at the man on the coal wharf—p'raps he'll throw some lumps at yer."

London Opinion.

defects of our educational system. It will be no easy task to establish a system sufficiently comprehensive and sufficiently elastic to give the youth of this country what we all desire they should have without undue dislocation of our industrial relations. Nevertheless, it must be done if the state is to reap the full measure of advantage that compulsory education alone affords. We are just beginning to realize that the wealth of a nation does not consist of bank balances but in the brains and brawn of its people.

"Many of the country's best men both rich and poor, realize their handicap through lack of an early education, consequently there is a growing demand and every probability that even the school-room may be touched with the spirit of the age and experience startling changes. Personally I stand for free and compulsory education from the very bottom to the very top..."

"The challenge of the worker as regards education is this: Nearly every educational reform in the past thirty years was inspired by the workers and fought for by the workers. They can no longer be tied to the

apron strings of custom and privilege. Neither can they be rocked to sleep by fine phrases that are not accompanied by fine deeds. They want less mouthing about the brotherhood of man, the liberty of the subject, the privilege of parenthood, the sanctity of the home, the salvation of the children, and more practical efforts to see that these paramount objects I have outlined are secured in the everyday life of the family and the community."

Dealing with the home, Mr. Woodward said in part:—"Perhaps one of the most difficult tasks will be the securing of good homes for all. In making the plans for homes for this and future generations, consideration should be given to beauty as well as health. This can be attained only through the destruction of many insanitary houses we find in the narrow streets and crowded slum areas, the cause of so much disease and suffering. Everybody who has a vision of a great Canada should become interested in this serious problem. It has been truly said that the home is the foundation of the nation, and that the virtuous home is the basis of all national prosperity. If this be true, let us analyze for a moment what our present rotten social system is doing with the home. It is an outrage against God and man, the most glaring example of selfishness and greed I can think of. In our slums we find places where people live that are nothing more than pest-holes of disease and crime, while in other parts of the city we find mansions that glitter with extreme luxury, too frequently the abodes of extreme selfishness. I have nothing to say against the beauty of these mansions but I have this to say to many of those who occupy them, that it will be to their own benefit and to the benefit of their fellowmen, if they will put as much energy behind a housing scheme to beautify our city, to ensure health to our citizens and thus establish a solid foundation upon which to build the nation, as they put behind winning the war. War always means death,

destruction and suffering. Better homes will mean peace, health, happiness and a great and glorious Canada.

"The challenge of the workers in regard to our housing problems is this: If the home is the foundation of the nation, we demand that homes should be built, not slums, and if private enterprise continues to violate its responsibility to the community by rent profiteering the workers will combine until they are powerful enough to force the hand of the government to provide homes at reasonable rents.

"Workmen are getting keener and more intelligent, willing to give and take, but not willing to be driven hither and thither at the sweet will of unreasonable employers. They are determined to have some control over their own destinies. They know their strength and their value in this great industrial scheme and that is manifesting itself in diverse ways morally, politically and industrially. A new light and a new vision has taken possession of the soul of Labor, and they know that there is no such thing as 'Peace on Earth' until the 'Hell of Greed' is swept off it.

"The Canadian Labor Movement is surely realizing that there is something more to be accomplished than simply increased wages and reduced working hours. It is rapidly coming to the conclusion that it must take an active part in the emancipation of human liberty, in progress and in the brotherhood of man, and as indispensable to these ends it is demanding representation on every legislative body in Canada.

"What we need to-day is parliamentary representation in the broadest sense, including both hand and brain workers. The people must be aroused from their lethargy and indifference and made to realize the power of their ballots. We must always remember that the people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws..."

"The very foundation of the people's rights and privileges should spring from the legislative halls of our country. The sooner we bury our petty jealousies and misunderstandings, the sooner we will be able to secure a real representation for the people and the sooner we will make Canada a better, brighter and a happier country to live in. It is the task of Christianity, it is the task of our leaders of industry and our leaders of labor, to lift our nation to a more equal and fraternal social life."

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OUR LONDON LETTER

(From our own Correspondent)

London, December 29th, 1919.

London's Yuletide was notable for spirited attempts on the part of two classes of the city's workers to better their conditions. In each case there was provided an effective study in contrasts.

The theatre employees, with stages crowded with the most expensive spectacles we have had for several years and the orchestra and boxes filled for the most part with the war-made rich, chose their time to announce that they considered the gulf between was rather too wide, and eight thousand of them, through the National Association of Theatrical Employees, sent to forty-two theatres, demands for wage increases. The exact form in which the request was couched was that a recent award by a Ministry of Labor arbitrator should be revised.

I will draw comparison between the award and the demand and then the modesty of the latter will be apparent. There has been some criticism on account of the fact that the award was announced about three weeks ago only, but the employees declined to accept the principle that they must sit down under every arbitration decision, however unfair it might be. These are the scales:—

Daymen, electricians, carpenters, property men: award, 1/2 (29c) per hour; demand, 1/5 (35c) to 1/9 (43c) per hour.

Dressers: award, 3/6 (87c) per performance; demand, 5/- (\$1.25) per performance.

Money takers, check takers, ushers, janitors: award: 3/6 (87c) per performance; demand, 5/- \$1.25 per performance.

Hall keepers: award, £2.7 (\$11.65) per week of 70 hours; demand, £3. (\$15).

Box-office assistant: award, £2.7.6 (\$11.75) per week of 54 hours; demand, £4 to £4.10 (\$20 to \$22.50).

There was a tremendous outcry at once, especially as these ministers to the public pleasure gave it plainly to be understood that they were quite ready to resort to the strike weapon if necessary. It was "holding a pistol to the head of Father Christmas" and "an unwarrantable interference with the pleasures of the people," according to the managers. The drama magnates had gone off to their country houses to eat turkey and plum pudding and were terribly ruffled at being disturbed by the common people who took their money for them and kept their theatres clean. They hurried back to town. Then the fight began. First the managers declared they would borrow and lend help from and to each other, although how it was possible to be checking orchestra tickets at Daly's and dress circle tokens at Prince's at the same

time did not seem perfectly clear. There were dark whisperings that the actors were being drilled for scene shifting and that the tragedy queens and pantomime "boys" had promised to run across the road and dress each other.

Naturally, the public suffered some measure of alarm, for Christmas bookings in London are registered weeks and often months ahead. The anxiety grew more tense when it became known that the Actors' Association, the Variety Artists' Federation and the Musicians' Union were prepared to stand by their humbler fellow workers.

At the eleventh hour the managers climbed down. They wrote to the Employers' Association proposing that all the workers in dispute should be submitted to a conference, to be held, after the holidays, and presided over by the Minister of Labor. They made this significant advance. "We shall be ready if advised by the Minister to remedy by constitutional means any hardship or grievance which any of our members could reasonably be considered to suffer if the recent award were maintained in all its details." So the pantomimes were saved.

The second thrill which a section of Labor gave London was the possibility that the Christmas and New Year's restaurant and hotel parties might have to be abandoned through a strike of staffs. Since the war London has been bitten with the restaurant habit very badly indeed. In the "best" society it is no longer "good form" to dine at home and a West End family will at the Ritz or the Savoy spend more on a single meal than many an East-End family has to keep it for a week. For the present season "special" dinners — special only in price — are the rule and these are charged for at nearly double ordinary rates. A moderate meal, food only, will cost 10/6 (\$2.60) or 15/- (\$3.75) and for the wines fifty per cent. above the normal profiteering prices is demanded.

Contrast again. The people who prepare and serve these fantastically-paid-for meals are being sweated in wages and wretchedly fed. A highly skilled male cook will get £2 to £2.10. (\$10 to \$12.50) a week, while the waiters are paid anything from 15/- (\$3.75) a week to nothing at all and have to live on their tips. One cabbage which the £2 a week cook sends up to the restaurant will be so skilfully divided that it will secure a return of six shillings (\$1.50) to the management! The tips on which the waiters rely in order to live suffer, perhaps naturally, through these exorbitant prices and now the business of napkin carrying and servile serving upon others is scarcely worth the doing. Even such tips as there are have a knack, under the

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pooling system, of finding the hand of the management and afterwards the superintendent in them before they reach the waiter.

Chambermaids in hotels and the whole indoor staff are often made to sleep in most inadequate quarters. The British and Allied Waiters' Union, which has espoused their cause, reports an instance of fourteen chambermaids having to sleep in one room. Sanitary accommodation is frequently indescribable.

The executive of the union requested the Incorporated Association of Hotels and Restaurants to agree to a meeting at which conditions generally might be discussed and proposals submitted. This amazing body of employers who had conceded recognition to the union last February, had the hardihood to pretend they were "not competent to deal with the matter."

And all along, when the union tried to negotiate with individual firms, they were being told "You must go to the association: we act only under their instructions."

Still the union "bore with fools," if not gladly, with patience, and held their hand from sending in to these ostriches of the catering world any ultimatum or threat of strike. Instead they made it clear in the Press that all they desired for the moment was an amicable meeting, and that if they had to close the hotels and restaurants it would be the fault of the proprietors.

Here again, through the agency of the Ministry of Labor, a pale glimmering of reason was made to penetrate the proprietorial brain and the Christmas parties, at any rate, were saved.

Perhaps the most extraordinary industrial sight of the past few days has been to see master cotton spinners offering — spontaneously and in a kind of Santa Claus manner — to pay to all their work people during the next three months, a graduated bonus. In the case of men on full adult wages this would reach £3 (\$15) a month.

It has been boomed as the first dawn of the millennium. The mill owner has become an angel of light and the mills hands are expected to rush forthwith to buy harps

and incense. The picture is too pretty.

As a matter of cold, cruel fact, the cotton owners have been making such tremendous profits that they hardly know that to do with them. Mills have changed hands for fabulous sums over and over again. It has come to this, that mill buying and selling is the shortest route to a millionaire's place in the cotton world.

It is essential for the success of this little game that all shall be quiet at the labor end of the concern until the mills decide in whose hands they intend finally to be long.

But, of course, the textile operatives, shrewd and hard-headed as they are, know everything that is going on and are asking for increases in wages. A dispute with their workers would not suit the book of these cotton lords at all and so they are throwing them £15 (\$45) a piece — at the outside figure — to keep quiet until the end of March. By that time the thimble-rigging will be over.

Politically there are, as yet another by-election has proved, only two real parties in the British State — Unionism, which is the modern equivalent of the old Toryism, and Labor. The famous Liberal party, which Gladstone raised to a political classic, is almost dead and Labor is undoubtedly in its place. When the Government wanted an ambassador to meet Litvinoff with regard to exchange of prisoners it selected James O'Grady, secretary of the National Federation of General Workers. O'Grady is just back, with a most interesting story, which will probably have been cabled to Canada by this time, and is returning to Russia early in the New Year.

Ethelbert Pogson.

A FINAL ARGUMENT.

She (to dentist lover)—"Mother will not believe that I come here about my teeth so often".

He—"I will send her a bill to-morrow".

—Boston Transcript.

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

Charity Collector—"Have you any particular use for your old clothes?"

Citizen—"Sure. I'm wearing them".

—"Baltimore American".

Mr. Peck—"Would you mind compelling me to move on, officer? I've been waiting on this corner three hours for my wife.—Puck.



Tracing Causes of Australian Unrest

Chief Reason Considered To Be Drift Of World Ideas Imported From Countries Where Labor Has No Constitutional Redress.

Industrial unrest is prevalent in Australia, and its causes have just been examined by Prof. Jethro Brown, president of the State Industrial Court, and an authority on constitutional, international, and industrial law.

Professor Brown agrees with C. M. Schwab, "one of the keenest intellects in the United States", that "we are on the threshold of a new social era. It means but one thing and that is that the man who labors with his hands, who does not possess property, is the one who is going to dominate affairs of this world—not merely Russia, Germany, and the United States, but the whole world." Professor Brown attaches considerable importance to his prediction, while recognizing the possibilities that the workers may fail through bad leadership, or other cause, to achieve the result.

Class War Concept in Australia

He places first, as one of the causes for the present industrial unrest in Australia, the drift of world ideas imported from places where Labor has been sweated and where means of constitutional redress have not been available. The class war concept, he asserts, has gained in Australia a new significance as the result of its growth in countries where conditions are wholly dissimilar. Another reason for the general industrial disorder he gives as an exaggerated expectation of economic beatitudes which were to follow immediately on the conclusion of the war.

"For several years," he argues, "the manhood of Australia and our financial resources have been sidetracked in order to contribute to the struggle for world-wide freedom and justice. There are some people who think that now the war is over the aftermath is negligible and that the community should return to the status quo plus additional real wages and shorter hours (whether conducive to economic efficiency or not) just as if no war had taken place. Nothing could be more shortsighted or more likely to mislead and betray. For some time to come the economic possibilities of the country in the way of raising real wage standards are affected.

Aftermath of the War

"Then there is the failure on the part of a large section of the employing class to recognize the full significance of agencies at work before the war, such as democratic institutions, popular education

and the growth of trade unionism, as well as the mental unsettlement which is the aftermath of the war. Another factor is the failure among a large section of the employees or their leaders, to recognize that the increased power which they can possess, if chosen, can result in a general amelioration of the conditions of the working classes, only if the power be exercised with wisdom and moderation and with due regard to the good of society as a whole.

"Other causes are the increased cost of living and the failure throughout Australia generally, despite our machinery for the regulation of industrial conditions, to provide adequate means for the harmonizing of awards of the Australian industrial courts, so as to bring about standard wages. The ordinary employee is not in a position to judge of the financial outlook of the community and its economic possibilities, but he is able

to compare himself with other employees and does so. If he finds discrepancies existing in the rate of wages or other conditions, naturally he complains."

Discussing the question of the influence of the high cost of living, Professor Brown says the Australian community has not exercised such a retrenchment of expenditure as would effect an adjustment of supply and demand in favor of the consumers. There is a dual evil here, he insists. The first is extravagance. The second is a capricious demand, involving wastes of large stocks (which pass out of fashion), and the inability of large manufacturers to attain to a rational standardization.

Wanton Extravagance

A keen business man who has extensive interests all over Australia, told Professor Brown that the public is determined to satiate its appetite without considering its ability to make payment. He added that wanton extravagance is being indulged in and that the result of it all is pressing on what may be called the middle strata of society.

Further explanations of the high cost of living, according to the professor, are the increasing expenditures associated with production, and failure of the present system of business organization

A. F. OF L. BREAKS RECORD

The good-standing membership of the American Federation of Labor for the month of November was 4,056,768. The average membership from May to December, 1919, was 3,912,878, an average gain of 652,807 over the last membership statistics presented to the A. F. of L. convention held in Atlantic City last June. The November figure established a new record—the four million mark has been passed and now the slogan is the five million mark.

in Australia to solve the problem of distribution, on the basis of minimum cost to the consumer.

"Considerations of finance are an important consideration", said the professor. "Whether we suffer from an inflated currency I have not the data to say. But rates of exchange are often against us and will probably continue so until we have a healthy balance of trade in our favor. Then the credit of the community has been threatened. Many employers and investors view our large public debts with apprehension. They are also frightened by prevailing conditions of industrial unrest. The net result is to bring about the very reverse of what we need—the speeding up of production.

Cheaper Commodities

"Far too many employers are sitting too tight", concluded Professor Brown, "instead of enlarging their business operations, scrapping old machinery, creating additional supplies, increasing the number of employees, redressing the balance of trade and cheapening the price of commodities. I doubt not that in time we shall pass to a saner and more stable social order, blessed by a degree of contentment and a due recognition of the fact that the kingdom of happiness is within us."

"I can't help feeling," said the professor in conclusion, "that the majority of men need desperately a new religion, or a revival of the innermost and refined essence of the old religion. Human happiness will not be assured until the spirit of service shall control the greed for gain and the passion for pleasure. Meanwhile the individual must follow the best as he sees it, sustained by the hope that what he does, while it cannot bring about immediately the much-hoped and much-desired millennium, will contribute, in however humble a way, to the attainment of the goal which all patriots, in a true sense of the term, must have in view. The efforts of politicians to bring about the new social era will be conditional upon the cooperation of every section or class of the community."

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How the Minds of Wage Earners Deal With Problems

Some Interesting Conclusions of an Employer who Became an Employee. ...

(From "Greater New York", Jan. 5)

In a recent report of Bloomfield's Labor Digest there appears an account of the experiences of Mr. Whiting Williams, Vice-President of the Hydraulic Pressed Steel Company, who recently spent seven months in the guise of a worker, and under an assumed name, as a laborer in several large steel plants, shipyards, coal mines and many similar industrial establishments.

Got Workers Viewpoint

He applied for work at a large number of plants and mines, and observed carefully the treatment accorded him and other applicants by their employment officers and foremen. At all times he lived the life of the ordinary workers, so that he was able to understand their ideas and appreciate their living conditions.

His opinions as gained from his experiences should prove of great interest to employers and of material assistance in enabling them to understand some of the labor problems from the worker's viewpoint.

Mr. Williams' Report

Mr. Williams believes that the outstanding elements in the worker's mind are as follows:

I

"The pre-eminent importance of having a job—the dreadfulness of the threat of joblessness under which thousands of workers, particularly the unskilled, live week after week and year after year. It is impossible to overstate this importance. A steady job is more important to the worker than the rate of wages. The present 'joy riding' from one job to another is only a symptom of the relief which comes from a temporary let-up of the strain which under normal conditions keeps a worker constantly in the same place; it should not blind employers to absolute necessity of regular daily earnings on the part of the best class of workers—those having families. This prime importance of the job makes highly questionable the practice wherever it exists of giving to a foreman, with little or no practical recourse or appeal from his decision, the right of firing; the right in other words of life or death, industrially speaking, over the worker.

II

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per-weary muscle and unhappy mind—soreness of body and soreness of spirit. They may be born of improper work, over-long hours, or bad living conditions.

III

"The worker's—especially the unskilled worker's—colossal ignorance and character. The meagre information ordinarily given him by his employer through the spoken or printed word forces the worker to judge by details of which the employer may be unconscious but which perhaps represent him more truly than words—with, generally, a resultant lack of interest in the work and a more or less pronounced distrust of the employer, including a deep-set conviction that "pull" secures more recognition than steady, efficient service.

"To these three are to be added other factors more or less common to the entire public: (1) the feeling that the high cost of living is somehow getting the best of us; (2) that the wallets of some are getting fatter as others' dollars grow thinner; (3) that ending the war should end abnormal conditions and, some how, hasn't; (4) that European unrest and happening may effect us all unfavorably in some unexpected way."

Radicalism Among Workers

Concerning radicalism among the workers, Mr. Williams is reported as believing:

"With all this, the worker is not a Bolshevik—not yet. But of it the Bolshevik agitator is taking direct advantage. This country, like all others, is staging the greatest selling contest the world ever saw. The agitator understands his customer better than the competing salesman, the unskilled and the employer. He knows the service, particularly the foreign laborer is performing, and thoroughly understands the importance of the steady job, and the opportunity for finding mental sore spots caused by physical fatigue and by the absence of mutual understanding between employer and employee. Into these sore spots he rubs salt. Without them the agitator is harmless. As long as thoughtless employers supply him with "talking points" his sales campaign will prove distressing to the good employers and dangerous to the entire country. The only effective counter-campaign is for every employer to set his house in order, and to persuade his neighbor employer to do the same. All must use the worker's other ear."

APPLIED ANATOMY.

"The human anatomy is a wonderful bit of mechanism", observed the Sage.

"Yes", agreed the Fool. "Pat a man on the back and you'll make his head swell". — "Cincinnati Enquirer."

TO COMPEL ARBITRATION

Proposed Amendment to Conciliation Act

Irene Vautrin, member for St. James, Montreal, is bringing in a bill amending the Workmen's Conciliation Act of the province in such manner as to have compulsory arbitration. Both workmen and employers would be compelled, under the Vautrin amendment, to submit their troubles to arbitration before either a strike or lock-out. When the decision is given, either party would be free to do as it wished, but Mr. Vautrin's idea is that if the parties delayed long enough before hostilities, the danger of trouble would be greatly diminished. For example, the Montreal waterworks strike would not have occurred under the proposal of Mr. Vautrin.

There are various proposals before the Government in regard to amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act. It is being proposed that the scope of the law should be so widened as to take in more classes of workers than at present provided for. Men in stores who work elevators, or are engaged as mechanics in little workshops or in stores where repairs are needed to equipment, do not come under the law. M. Justice McLennan, of the Superior Court in Montreal, recently gave judgment holding that a man running an elevator in a departmental store should come under the law, but this judgment was reversed.

THIS IS LIP-YEAR

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The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada

Its Only Aim Is The Welfare of The Masses.

The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws, and the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada exists to see to it that the workers by hand and brain are directly represented in the law-making bodies of the Dominion; to find, train and elect the right men of our own class in order to secure the kind of legislation that will protect and advance the interests of the workers.

It will wage warfare on plutocracy, despotism, economic privileges, and upon all the evil forces which burden the people and rob them of that happiness of living which is their fundamental right.

It is a non-partisan educational and political association, and because of the manner in which it is organized can never become the instrument or plaything of a small group of any class, particularly of wealthy men. The aim is the attainment of true democracy.

WE PLEDGE OURSELVES:—

To support all municipal, provincial and federal educational plans where the evident purpose is to raise the standard of education in enlightened and progressive ways; to present truthfully and fearlessly through the medium of Fifth Sunday Meetings and our own press, the "Canadian Railroader", the latest and most important political, social and industrial developments;

To advocate the abolition of property qualifications for the franchise or for election to public office; the adoption of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, and of proportional representation in all forms of public government; universal suffrage for both sexes, on the basis of one person, one vote; the transfer of taxes from improvements, and all products of labor, to land values, incomes and inheritances;

To advocate prison reform, including introduction of the honor and segregation systems, and abolition of contract labor; the enactment and rigid enforcement of child labor laws; pensions for mothers with dependent children; regulation of immigration to prevent lowering of industrial, political or social standards; development of the postal savings and parcel post systems; financial and other assistance to farmers through co-operative banks and by other means; government development of co-operative producing and trading associations for the benefit of the consumer;

To advocate extension of workmen's housing schemes and the labor bureau system; provision of technical education for every willing worker, according to his capacities; more effective inspection of buildings, factories, workshops and mines; minimum wages; a rest period of not less than a day and a half per week for every worker; government insurance of workers against sickness, injury and death; maternity benefits and old-age pensions; better Workmen's Compensation Acts; representation of the workers on all public boards and on boards for the supervision of private enterprises; union labor conditions in all government work; adequate pensions and opportunities for soldiers and their dependents;

To advocate freedom of speech and of the press, and a law compelling all newspapers and periodicals to publish in all issues a complete list of shareholders and bondholders.

"The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" is financed entirely by its members who contribute \$2 a year in membership fees. If a local has been established in your city \$1 remains in the local treasury and the other dollar is sent by the local organization to our Dominion Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building, Montreal, Que. In case no local has been established in your community, send the membership fee of \$2 directly to Dominion Headquarters.

The funds accumulating in the Dominion Headquarters are used for political and educational propaganda; the development of the organization; the preparation of pamphlets and leaflets and the financing of the various political campaigns where favorable opportunities develop, to elect our candidates. The treasurer is under bond and the books are audited by a firm of accountants.

An application blank will be found below. Merely fill out the application blank, buy a postal order for \$2 and send it to Dominion Headquarters. Your membership card will be forwarded by return mail. Join this great organization in the interests of education and clean politics. Today is the day and this is the hour. Become a member now.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary,
The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada,
General Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building,
MONTREAL, QUE.

I hereby make application for membership in "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada." I subscribe and agree to pay, while a member, the yearly fee of \$2.00 in advance.

Name.....

Amount paid \$..... Address.....

Date..... City.....

Province.....

Make all cheques and money orders payable to "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada."

Official membership card will be mailed from headquarters, with copy of platform, constitution and general rules.

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